

PENNSYLVANIA & CO.

PENNYPACKER AUTOBIOGRAPHY

Dinners, Murder Trials and Vivisection Are Discussed—Former Governor Denounces the Methods of Detectives

The installments of Governor Pennypacker's "Autobiography of a Pennsylvanian" temporarily will appear on the editorial page of the Evening Public Ledger.

CHAPTER IX—Continued

THE Judges in social parlance were regarded as being possessed of too slender resources to be expected to entertain, but it was the proper thing to invite them to all of the important functions, and my cards of invitation and menus, all of which are preserved and bound in volumes, give a quite complete picture of this phase of life in Philadelphia, and even of the State, for I had been born there and had since been born there and had since been born there.

A Child's Accident

Just before I left the bench a boy of eleven years of age was tried before me for the murder of a playmate of six or seven years. The little fellow had a fivest piece and the defendant had a toy pistol. The latter said, "Give me that fivest piece." "No, I won't," was the answer. "If you don't I will shoot you." The child stood his ground and thereupon the defendant shot and killed him. The defendant was locked up in prison, but the pistol, which was regarded as an essential part of the evidence, could nowhere be found. A detective went to him and, finding him crying, told him that if he would tell where the pistol was he would be free. Thereupon the boy said he had thrown it into a quarry, describing the place, and the detective went there and found it. He testified to these facts at the trial and was much astonished and embarrassed to hear the Judge instruct the jury that they ought not to place the slightest reliance upon his evidence; that, having charge of a child eleven years of age, he had, according to his own statement, deliberately led to the child in order to gain an advantage over him and, therefore, could be trusted by nobody. John Weaver, who was then District Attorney, came to me privately to remonstrate on behalf of the detective and was informed that the instruction could not be modified in the slightest extent.

Cruelty to Animals

I once sent a man to prison for eight months for cutting off the tail of a dog. He had mutilated this animal and left it to perish miserably. Had a police officer who had made use of what is called "the third degree" with prisoners in his charge, or a gunner who had been shooting pigeons at a match, or a jockey who had docked the tail of his horse, or a doctor who had practiced vivisection been brought before me, while on the bench, they would each have heard that the customs and technical needs of their professions would have been an unsafe dependence. The opponents of vivisection make the mistake of standing upon the weak ground of utility, where they are necessarily mistaken. Of course, something concerning human construction and diseases can be learned from cutting up a living animal. More could be learned by cutting up a human being, however. The answer to the doctors is that we have no business with the information that can only be learned in this way. Let us do this. Let each creature bear its own ills. It is better that I should take the chance of dying of a tumor than that men should be taught to cut up living dogs to get possible information. A man may have the money he has stolen from a scoundrel to the poor, but that does not justify the theft. To the doctrine of doing harm that good may come of it we had better say, "Avaunt!" "Vade retro Satanas!"

A Narrow Escape

On the 16th of February, 1893, I came pretty near to destruction. For several days I had been trying a rather important land-damage case of Lukens vs. the City in the secondary room of Congress Hall, the windows of which look upon Chestnut street. I finished charging the jury about 3 o'clock. The plaintiff came to me to ask whether I would not wait and take the verdict. I hesitated for a moment, but concluding that it would make little difference to him and it was uncertain how long they would deliberate, I told the jury to seal their verdict and bring it in the next morning, and I adjourned the court. I had involuntarily got outside the room before the ceiling fell, filling the room with debris and crushing the bench at which I had been sitting and my chair to the floor. Various coatings of plaster had been applied through the century until they were eight inches thick, and they fell as solid as rock. It hung there over me like the sword of Damocles, ready to fall with the occurrence of any unusual rumble on the street, and that afternoon there was no place on earth more seemingly safe and in reality more dangerous. A wit at the bar said, "Flat justitia, ruat ceiling."

Some Murder Cases

The first conviction of murder in the first degree in the City Hall at Broad and Market streets was that of a man tried before me. Job Haas, a coal dealer, doing business in one of the suburbs of the city, belonged to a type which is now almost obsolete. He went to his place of business at the break of day. He had no faith in the security of banks and carried his cash upon his person. One morning, before others were stirring, he sat at his desk writing a bill for coal when a negro, named Henry Davis, crept up behind him with a club, crushed in his brain and stole his money. He fell over dead, his sleeve smeared the partly written bill, which I have preserved. The evidence was circumstantial but clear and left the jury and myself without doubt. The case interested me as a psychological study. Davis had been employed at the Midvale Steel Works, but had been discharged and was without a job and without money. The night before he went to see the woman to whom he was engaged to be married and told her his financial situation. Thereupon she promptly threw him overboard. The cause of this murder was the situation which has been outlined, the mood into which he, ignorant and undisciplined, was thrown by his surroundings and the unusual opportunity given to him by a miserly old man. Another murder case interested me exceedingly because of the closeness of the legal questions involved. Nicola Bartolotte, convicted December 23, 1897, had a quarrel with another Italian, a larger man, in the course of which his thumb was so badly crushed that he was compelled to go to the hospital. After he had been cured, one day he thrust into his pocket a long-bladed knife, which I still have, and went down to the house of the other man, evidently on the lookout for trouble. The other man accepted the challenge and after some altercation Bartolotte ran. His antagonist pursued, picked up a large stone, overtook Bartolotte and, getting him down, lay on top of him, beating him over the head with the stone. By some means Bartolotte was able to open his knife and he plunged the blade into his foe, who rolled over helpless. Up to this time Bartolotte was legally safe from the charge of murder. He arose, hurt and bloody, went away to the distance of perhaps twenty-five feet, then returned and with a half-dozen terrific blows of his knife put an end to the life of his foe, who lay on the ground. The jury said me from grave trouble by finding him guilty of murder in the second degree, and I sentenced

THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

Study of Foreign Tongues—A Defense of the Grocers

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—I read in the Evening Public Ledger on December 12 an article in which William C. Rowen, of the committee on higher schools, stated that he believed the sentiments of the whole committee were in favor of abandoning the study of all the foreign languages; not only German, which action has been seriously considered for some time, but also French. It is inconceivable and let us hope impossible, that the members of the Board of Education should give their sanction to so blind and narrow-minded a policy.

When would this change affect? The high school students of course. And the aim of every high school student is to enter college, to become a college man or a college woman. To enter some university and to enter some course in every college or university a reading knowledge of French and German is required. Merely because we are at war and Americanism has become a national slogan, we neglect the fact that in the realm of science Germany and France are years ahead of us, although we are making remarkable and unparalleled progress? How can a student of engineering, of science, hope to become more than a mediocre plodder in his profession unless he can read at first hand the work of some of the greatest scientists that ever lived: Pascal, Legendre, Gay Lussac, among the French; Leibniz, Meyer, von Richter, among the Germans; not to mention the hosts of modern practical scientists, all of whose momentous discoveries are printed in French and German and are not translated? You may be even frantically patriotic and as violently anti-German as you wish, but you cannot destroy the superiority of the French and the German in the field of science.

Those students now in high school need not fear the war, as most of them are too young. When they go to college and learn engineering and their science they will be the ones to build up anew the devastated countries of western Europe, for Germany must surrender or be devastated the way France is now, shall they have to spend six precious months "over there" learning the languages, when with the preparation afforded by as little as two years in high school they can acquire the same knowledge in as many weeks?

No one has more patriotism than the writer, yet there must be sanity in the patriotism. The unfortunate way in which Fritz Kreisler, the greatest living artist, was treated is a fine example of the extremes to which people will go and yet believe themselves right, and the agitation for the removal of these languages from the curriculum in I fear, only a repetition of the error. In the realm of culture, too, without French and German there is a big void; what literature without Moliere, Victor Hugo, Balzac; without Heine, Goethe and Schiller? And the people to whom this is the natural taste, the cultured men and women of the future, are these same high school boys and girls who want to learn all they can. Thus there is both the practical and the cultural argument for the retention of these languages. What is the scientific or literary value of a student who has not read the best of these languages, when with the preparation afforded by as little as two years in high school they can acquire the same knowledge in as many weeks?

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DEFENSE OF GROCERS

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—The story in your Tuesday's issue about the woman who paid seventy-five cents for the very best eggs and felt that she was "stung" is a very interesting one. If you will only be kind enough to peruse current market prices as quoted in your worthy paper, you will find that at present fancy selected eggs are selling at sixty-six cents. This gives the grocer nine cents, or 13 1/2 per cent, gross profit. From this 13 1/2 per cent the grocer has to pay his clerk, his expenses, such as rent, lighting, heat, delivery; from this same source he must cover all his debts. After all these things are deducted,

THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

Study of Foreign Tongues—A Defense of the Grocers

the notorious, unpatriotic, egotist profiteer has something to keep up his family. By the way, you won't find any grocer (private and retail) paying a tax upon extra war profits this year.

The public must understand that there is a great difference between the maximum prices quoted by Mr. Heinz for storage eggs and the price of strictly fresh, selected Pennsylvania eggs. The public must also learn that before the food conditions can be alleviated the real culprits must be found. The culprit is positively not the grocer. On one side is the public trying to buy up and hoard articles of great scarcity such as sugar. On the other side is the wholesale dealer taking as much advantage of the retailer as he possibly can.

The real guilty ones are the men "higher up." In its usual rashness the public has rushed at the small grocer. Have conditions been improved by this? No. And neither will they improve until the ones really at fault have been sought out and deservedly punished. Philadelphia, December 19.

TRUTH ABOUT INSURANCE

To the Editor of the Evening Public Ledger: Sir—It was with great satisfaction and pleasure that I read the article on insurance by Arthur Fisher, published in a recent number of your paper. It seemed to me that the article set forth the situation very fairly and showed an unusual grasp of the subject and a pleasant contrast with other articles which we have noted in other papers.

HAUNTED SCHOOLS

It is curious how the ghosts of dead scholars are alleged to haunt many of our leading schools and universities. Elton believes firmly in the "Spook of Cuckoo Weir," an apparition of a boy who was drowned nearly 400 years ago at a spot on the river just north of the college. Westminster school, where many of our greatest men have received their early education, possesses its own peculiar "spook" in the shape of a retired Puritan, named Wiseman, who was killed by a tree hurled by one of the scholars during one of the London riots in 1642.

WHAT DO YOU KNOW?

- 1. Who is Charles A. Piez?
2. Where is Udesasa?
3. What is the "Golden State"?
4. Who was Apollon?
5. Name the author of "Hawthorne."
6. What is the scientific or literary value of a student who has not read the best of these languages, when with the preparation afforded by as little as two years in high school they can acquire the same knowledge in as many weeks?
7. When was the first medical school in the United States founded?
8. What are Fabius' tactics?
9. Identify "Old Fuss and Feathers."
10. What is an intaglio?
Answers to Yesterday's Quiz
1. A cameo is a carving in relief on a level.
2. Gustav Ador of Geneva, Switzerland, is the president of the International Red Cross.
3. The Mississippi is called "The Father of Waters."
4. Hebe was the wine bearer of the gods in Greek mythology.
5. Edgar Allan Poe wrote "The Raven."
6. Quids was the name of a slave used by Louisa de la Rampe, the Quaker benefactress who wrote "Under Two Flags." "A Dog of Fido" is the title of a novel by Mrs. Henry James.
7. A Whitehead is a fortification commanding the extremity of a bridge nearest the water. It is used for the preservation and usefulness of the bridge and to dominate the adjacent territory.
8. Davy Jones' Locker, in sailors' legend, is the bottom of the ocean. "Smallest says" is the name, according to the mythology of sailors, of the fiend that presides over various shapes, waiting the devoted victims of impending calamity.
9. The Flare River rises in the foothills of the Trossachs and flows north-westerly into the Atlantic Sea about thirty miles north of the mouth of the Forth.
10. William G. McAdoo is Secretary of the Treasury in the Wilson Cabinet.

Tom Daly's Column

BALLAD AGAINST POLLYANNA. For all life's ills, says the optimist, For every ailment that may cast, A cheerful smile is a tonic rare. But when of trials we get a share, 'Tis such, we fancy, beyond our due, To ease our feelings and clear the air, A grochy grumble is helpful, too. This wicked world, says the moralist, Would be so livable, sweet and fair, If all, in chaos, would but last, 'A cheerful smile is a tonic rare.' But since the Devil himself may scare, The merry rattle and all his crew, Perhaps, as mark of the rude but square, A grochy grumble is helpful, too. Soft answers gladden the theorist, And next, says he, to a whispered prayer, For healing hurts of an iron fist, A cheerful smile is a tonic rare. But when belligerent eyeballs glare, And menacing glances pierce you through, What blessed comfort it is to succor, A grochy grumble is helpful, too.

Here's the Latest Tale

Ex-Congressman J. Washington Logus brought this from one of the district boards: Officer—What's your name? Drafee—John Doe. Officer—What's your address? Drafee—No. — Blank street. Officer—Occupation? Drafee—Burglar. Officer—Come, come! No funny business. What's your occupation? Drafee (reaching into his pocket)—Burglar, I said, and if you don't believe me here's my last three commitments. Officer (after examining the documents, goes on with the examination)—What do you intend to do after you leave the service? Drafee—Resume my regular trade.

LONDON VIEW OF U. S. IN WAR

Who in this country can only say "war" when America goes to war she goes to war. She has the extraordinary fortune to be led by a President of intellect, courage and determination. President Wilson and Secretary Lansing were more than a match for the best diplomacy that Germany could produce. America will be more than a match for Germany and her allies in the war. America is in a position to carry her resolve to execution. Alike in men, resources, skill and determination, America is superior to Germany, though she were fighting America alone. It is quite certain that Germany will utilize every moment. It obviously is her policy to force a decision in the next few months, and the Germans being fine soldiers, their leaders being desperate men and nothing being certain in war, they have at least a sporting chance of success.—London Morning Post.

ANTIPODEAN ENTERPRISE

The Government of New South Wales has set aside 237 acres of crown land in the suburbs of Sydney for the erection of workmen's cottages. Reservations have been made for roads, parks and religious purposes, also for police stations, administrative buildings, etc. Two hundred and eleven acres are reserved for building sites, on which cottages are being erected seven to the acre. This will provide 1437 cottages and 40 shops. Already 249 cottages and six shops have been completed. The cottages are of brick or concrete, with slate or tile roofs. The cost of constructing them ranged from \$1344 to \$1315. They will rent for from \$3 to \$4.50 a week.—Brooklyn Standard Union.

WHO IS LEADING HUNS?

If God is leading the Germans forward in Italy, who is leading them backward in Belgium?—Wichita Beacon.

the same thing is meant—misgovernment masquerading in the domino of a national party. The people suffer the same evils wherever the local label—swollen contracts, "jobs," deals, police in politics, vice protection, corruption at the polls, misuse of public funds for private profit, the return of thirty cents' worth of value for a round dollar's worth of taxes.

Philadelphia's decent and civic-minded citizenry can take heart of grace from Boston's wrecking of the machine, now a heap of political junk at the base of the bedrock of reform. The return of Andrew J. Peters to the Mayoralty over the anti-reform incumbent was not the accomplishment of a single campaign flame fanned to a fury of resentment over had municipal conditions, but it was the result of the fire of a persistent purpose, built on the backbone of pure politics, and kept burning year after year despite the blasts of discouragement and defeat which sometimes almost extinguished the embers of reform. Those embers became a conflagration.

THROW OUT THE YELLOW VOTE

IN ENGLAND soldiers and sailors under as well as over twenty-one years of age are to vote. In Canada a similar attempt has been made to bring civilian and military elements of the citizenry into political cooperation in the midst of war. The women relatives of Canadian soldiers voted on Monday and men of German and Austrian antecedents did not, unless their citizenship was of many years' standing. The votes of the men who fought at Vimy Ridge have been taken and in due course of time will swell the anti-Prussian majority in the Dominion.

It is not too soon for Congress and the State Legislatures to sort out Americans. It is really asking too much of us to let the Kaiser have several hundred thousand votes next November. Men and women of German and Austrian birth who have become naturalized recently are not representative Americans. Injustice would be done to some of them by disfranchisement. But those of them who are loyal should be the first ones to demand that their loyalty be not offset by naturalized Kaiserites. Yet how can we discriminate between the sheep and the goats? All who have refused to perform military service, and who do not belong to recognized religious bodies with pacifist in their creeds, should lose their votes, and, of course, all who since August 1, 1914, have been convicted of sedition, of conspiring with foreign agents to the detriment of the United States, of urging the violation of Federal laws.

At the same time an efficient system of taking and recording the entire soldier and sailor vote, irrespective of age, should be planned. If a man is old enough to die for the country he is old enough to vote for it. The widows of our soldier dead should vote.

GOOD FOR THE SOUL

AMAN has kept it on his mind all day and has actually remembered it as he starts for home in the late afternoon. He passes his dollar through the wicket and gives the girl his name and address. He gets a receipt and a button, which will prevent him from being challenged. He expects to be badgered for more than a dollar. But he is not badgered. Then he feels sorry he did not decide to give more. "I'll make it two dollars," he says. "All right, but who shall I put down as the other dollar member?" is the reply. "What we want is members this time."

PUT POSTAL SERVICE ON HIGH GEAR

THESE lines are too trying for the public to feel great interest in whatever friction may exist between postal employees and the Postmaster General. Who does concern the public, both as a matter of annoyance and of utility, is the breakdown of the postal system at this time. Vaunted efficiency seems to have been overwhelmed in a tidal wave of disorganization at the first critical test. Letters are delayed and newspapers and periodicals are delivered long overdue, without any apparently legitimate cause.

Mails are important in wartimes of all times. Business must rely more than ever on the postal service for its quick and effective conduct, with the restrictions on passenger travel made necessary by the war. The civilian and military bodies are kept in touch through the mails in a very important sense since the mailing of our armies has called from civil pursuits hundreds of thousands of men. Without proper mail facilities, families separated by service and sacrifice become more widely divided than before, and cruelly so, by the very lack of justified necessity. There is no excuse for interruption of the internal communications of the United States, and the fact of the interruption is blameworthy.

Mr. Hurleston and his force must postpone gabbling about their differences and get down to the brass tacks of real service. Co-operation, not conflict, is the call upon both. They must rivet up the loose joints and tighten the postal machine to high gear and smooth running.

THE PROHIBITION WAVE IS A STEAMROLLER

We more than suspect that it is the last Christmas the Kaiser will enjoy. No wonder the President is a wise man if House tells him all he knows! It's more than he ever told anybody else.

THE COUNTRY COULD DO WITHOUT DENMAN

The country could do without Denman, but apparently it cannot do without Goethals. Deep waters are made for big fish.

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STRANGING "NEUTRAL ANIMALS"

IS related by Forney that in July, 1911, he and George H. Boker called on President Lincoln. It was just previous to Bull Run and commissioners from Kentucky were waiting to protest against sending Union troops through their State to the relief of the Unionists in Tennessee. They said Kentucky was neutral. The situation recalled to Boker an anecdote of the British Minister at the Court of Frederick the Great, who was anxious to persuade that king to join with Great Britain in a certain military enterprise. "Old Fritz steadily refused to be involved. At a formal state dinner, when the British Minister was present, Frederick said, 'Will my Lord Bristol show me to send him a piece of copper?'" to which the latter indignantly replied, "No, sire, I decline having anything to do with neutral animals."

On great issues there can be no neutrality. What do Missouri compromises amount to in the end? They lead to inevitable conflict and write in blood verities that might otherwise have been written in clean ink. Russia stained benches from the Baltic to the Black Sea, and through them no enemy could pass, but any enemy who wanted to could stride himself through the highways and byways of the country preaching sedition and spreading propaganda. Russia closed her physical frontiers, but she left her mental mind fully exposed to attack. There are men in this country who feed upon reason and call themselves pacifists or who profess that they are the true advocates of democracy and alone stand for freedom of speech and complete personal liberty, but few are sincere and some are dupes, but the most are subtle propagandists whose hearts beat for the Kaiser and who aim eventually to do to this country what their confederates did to Russia. They plan to contaminate the national spirit, they hope to stir up argument and dissension, to get the factions at each other's throats and to stimulate partisanship. It may be that they even invade the money markets, as the Secretary of the Treasury intimates, and strive to depress securities in the expectation that this "nation of money-grabbers" will quit cold when its pocket is touched. These are the enemies of the Republic at home, and they are as dangerous enemies as any army corps at the front.

There can be no neutrality between a nation and his own country. No man can stand against his nation when his nation is at war for its life and remain a man. Nor can there be any excuse for a citizen to be deceived by German lies. Whoever conceived the idea of the "Four-Minute Men" committed something definite to national honor and national success. These men are carrying the message of fact and truth to all parts of the Union. They are telling only facts, facts that can be proved by documentary evidence, copies of which any citizen may obtain from Washington. They are calling German lies everywhere. They are not giving German spies time to plant their seed. They are showing that there is no neutrality and why there cannot be. No man who is not for the United States is a citizen here.

When a citizen hears some wild rumor, or hears less plausible, the effect of which is to create doubt or discontent, let him call his Representative in Congress or his newspaper and ask if it is true. Most of the lies in circulation only because they are so serious enough to be denied actively. But even a little lie in these times may do a lot of damage. Let us, therefore, be on the lookout not only for the propagandists, but also for their accomplices, but we can certainly stem the seed of discontent. The "Four-Minute Men" are doing a wonderful work. Every patriotic citizen can help in the magnificent task above.

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